

UCLA Faculty Association

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Friday, June 6, 2025

Straws in the Wind - Part 3

From [Inside Higher Ed](#): Curt Rice, director of the Fulbright Commission of Norway, was ready to tie a bow on this year's cohort of Fulbright scholars back in January. Norway had selected 17 finalists for the prestigious academic exchange program sponsored by the U.S. State Department and received approval from the Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board to accept all of them. The country assumed that scholars would be notified by the State Department, as usual, sometime in the following month.

That never happened. Instead, U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio sent an internal department cable detailing an additional step for the scholarship's review process, which historically has entailed an initial project review by the Institute of International Education, a secondary review by a panel in the host country and final approval from the FFSB.

Inside Higher Ed obtained a copy of Rubio's cable, which says that this year State Department officials would give the final sign-off; they have been tasked with rooting out any projects that could violate President Trump's executive orders banning diversity, equity and inclusion. All candidates, whether they'd been approved by FFSB already or not, would have to pass. Rice said that of the 17 finalists Norway selected, the State Department ultimately nixed seven of them—about 40 percent of their expected Fulbright cohort. The grounds for their rejections were "clearly political," he said: The finalists whose acceptances were overruled all had proposals that dealt with either diversity or climate change. In other European countries whose directors shared their numbers with him, he said, the State Department overrode about 20 percent of the selected finalists...

Full story at <https://www.insidehighered.com/news/global/us-colleges-world/2025/05/29/fulbright-applicants-rejected-over-dei-research-proposals>.



Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:20 AM No comments:

Labels: diversity, politics

Will Texas Defend?

From the [NY Times](#): The Trump administration sued Texas on Wednesday over a two decade-old law that offers undocumented residents of the state the same discounted tuition as other in-state college applicants, arguing that the measure violates federal immigration law. The lawsuit came as a surprise given that the Republican-dominated state has been more than willing to cooperate with the Trump administration on its strict approach to immigration enforcement. The case was filed in the Northern District of Texas and carried a title more familiar to legal fights over immigration during the Biden administration: United States of America v. State of Texas.



"Under federal law, schools cannot provide benefits to illegal aliens that they do not provide to U.S. citizens," Attorney General Pam Bondi said in a statement, pledging that the Justice Department would "ensure that U.S. citizens are not treated like second-class citizens."

How or whether Texas chooses to defend the law, the Texas Dream Act of 2001, is still uncertain. The state's Republican governor at the time, Rick Perry, championed the law and said during his failed 2012 presidential run that those who opposed it did not "have a heart." The party has moved considerably to the right on immigration since then.

It now falls to Texas' hard-line conservative attorney general, Ken Paxton, to represent the state in the case, and it was not clear on Wednesday what his approach would be. Mr. Paxton is currently locked in a fierce campaign to unseat Senator John Cornyn in the state's Republican primary next year, based in large part on the attorney general's aggressive enforcement of immigration laws. Mr. Paxton's office did not respond to a request for comment on the suit...

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In April, President Trump took aim at such students with an executive order targeting laws "that provide in-state higher education tuition to aliens but not to out-of-state American citizens." The order directed Ms. Bondi to "identify and take appropriate action to stop the enforcement" of such laws. The action appeared aimed at blue states such as California...

Full story at <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/06/04/us/politics/texas-undocumented-students-trump.html>.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:05 AM No comments:

Labels: diversity, politics

Thursday, June 5, 2025

Pre-Inauguration Interview



Ahead of the inauguration ceremonies, Chancellor Frenk spoke to two [Daily Bruin](#) reporters. You can see the interview at the link below: [26 minutes]

A conversation with Chancellor Julio Fr...

Or direct to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X4mizTun9H4>.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 9:03 AM No comments:

Labels: UCLA

Watch the May 28, 2025 Special Meeting of the Regents (Appointment of Riverside Chancellor)



The UC Regents met on May 28, 2025 in a special meeting to name a new student Regent (not yet announced) and to name the new UC-Riverside chancellor, Dr. Jack S. Hu, about whom we previously posted.*

Although time was allotted for public comments, there were no sign-ups.

In the open portion of the meeting, the new chancellor was announced and introduced. He made brief remarks and the session was adjourned.

During the closed portion, litigation was discussed. Although no particular case is recorded in the agenda, it is likely there was discussion of litigation related to the current conflict between UC and the Trump administration. Below is the full agenda and a link to the recording.

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Special Meeting: May 28, 2025

Meeting of the **Special Committee on the Selection of a Student Regent** in Closed Session at UC Center Sacramento, 1115 11th Street, Sacramento, 11:30 a.m.

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Contributors

- California Policy Issues
- Toby Higbie
- UCLA Faculty Association

Board Meeting: Agenda

Date: May 28, 2025

Time: 3:45 p.m.

Location: UC Center Sacramento, 1115 11th Street, Sacramento, and teleconference locations

Agenda – Closed Session

B1(X) Discussion: Appointment of and Compensation for Chancellor, Riverside Campus

B2(X) Discussion: Update on Chancellor Search, Santa Barbara Campus

B3(X) Discussion: Trial Court Developments and Updates

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Agenda - Open Session

Public Comments (none were received)

B1 Action: Approval of Appointment of and Compensation for Chancellor, Riverside Campus as Discussed in Closed Session [Dr. S. Jack Hu]

Source: <https://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/regmeet/may25/spclmay28.pdf>; <https://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/meetings/agendas/may282025.html>.

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As always, we preserve recordings of Regents meetings indefinitely because the Regents have no policy on duration of retention. You can see the open portion of the May 28th special meeting at:

https://archive.org/details/board_202506.

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*<https://uclafacultyassociation.blogspot.com/2025/05/new-uc-riverside-chancellor.html>.

Posted by California Policy Issues at [3:25 AM](#) No comments:    

Labels: [UC Regents](#), [UC-Riverside](#)

Straws in the Wind - Part 2

From the [NY Times](#): *In 1950, though it didn't know it yet, the American government held one of the keys to winning the Cold War: Qian Xuesen, a brilliant Chinese rocket scientist who had already transformed the fields of aerospace and weaponry. In the halls of the California Institute of Technology and M.I.T., he had helped solve the riddle of jet propulsion and developed America's first guided ballistic missiles. He was made a colonel in the U.S. Air Force, worked on the top-secret Manhattan Project and was sent to Germany to interrogate Nazi scientists. Dr. Qian wanted the first man in space to be American — and was designing a rocket to make it happen.*



Then he was stopped short. At the height of his career, there came a knock at the door, and he was handcuffed in front of his wife and young son. Prosecutors would eventually clear Dr. Qian of charges of sedition and espionage, but the United States deported him anyway — traded back to Communist Beijing in a swap for about a dozen American prisoners of war in 1955.

The implications of that single deportation are staggering: Dr. Qian returned to China and immediately persuaded Mao Zedong to put him to work building a modern weapons program. By the decade's end, China tested its first missile. By 1980, it could rain them down on California or Moscow with equal ease. Dr. Qian wasn't just rightly christened the father of China's missile and space programs; he set in motion the technological revolution that turned China into a superpower...

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Full story at <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/05/30/opinion/visas-china-rockets-scientist-technology.html>.

Posted by California Policy Issues at [3:20 AM](#) No comments:     

Labels: [diversity](#), [politics](#)

Will Harvard Continue to Lead the Charge? - Part 15



From the [NY Times](#): The Justice Department quietly approached Harvard University last month with startling claims, even by the extraordinary standards of the Trump administration's monthslong assault on the elite college. The department signaled that it was reviewing claims of discrimination against white men at The Harvard Law Review, and accused the renowned publication of destroying evidence in an open investigation. The administration demanded that Harvard "cease and desist" from interfering. In a series of letters that have not been previously reported, the government also disclosed that it had a "cooperating witness" inside the student-run journal. That witness now works in the White

House under Stephen Miller, the architect of the administration's domestic policy agenda, Trump officials confirmed.

The Law Review is independent of Harvard University. The allegations nonetheless deepened fears among Harvard officials that the administration appeared eager to escalate one of its civil investigations into a criminal inquiry, underscoring how the university's problems with President Trump extend far beyond the loss of billions in federal funding.

...The investigation of The Harvard Law Review offers a glimpse into the strategy. The Justice Department's not-so-subtle threats helped persuade The Law Review to agree to at least some of the government's demands, which were delivered in three letters within 10 days in May... The witness, Daniel Wasserman, was identified as a government cooperator in two of the letters to Harvard University from the Justice Department last month, when he was still an editor at The Harvard Law Review. And other staff members of The Law Review have also known of his identity... Legal experts said it was highly unusual for an administration to give a cooperating witness in an ongoing investigation a White House job.

Inside the administration, some officials said the Justice Department might have additional evidence beyond what it had disclosed in its letters. Two administration officials familiar with the investigation said the department had been pursuing an allegation that law school students applying for editorial jobs at The Law Review were told directly of racial and gender hiring preferences...

Jonathan Swain, a spokesman for Harvard, said the university was committed to following the law, and emphasized that the school and The Law Review were two separate entities. "Harvard Law School and Harvard University do not control or operate The Harvard Law Review, including in its membership or article selection decisions," Mr. Swain said in an emailed statement. The Law Review declined to comment...

Full story at <https://www.nytimes.com/2025/06/02/us/politics/harvard-law-review-investigation-trump.html>.

Posted by California Policy Issues at [3:05 AM](#) No comments:     

Labels: [diversity](#), [Harvard](#), [politics](#)

Wednesday, June 4, 2025

Westbound Wilshire BI Lane Closure Between Westwood and Veteran: Subway Construction



Westbound Wilshire BI Lane Closure Between Westwood and Veteran

Summary

Metro contractors will close the Wilshire BI westbound 3 and 4 lane between Westwood BI and Veteran Ave from Monday, May 26 through Friday, June 27. This closure will be from 8 am to 4 pm. The temporary traffic control plan will allow concrete pours in tunnels and cross passages.

Date: Monday, May 26 through Friday, June 27

Work Hours: 8 am through 4 pm; weekdays only

Traffic Control:

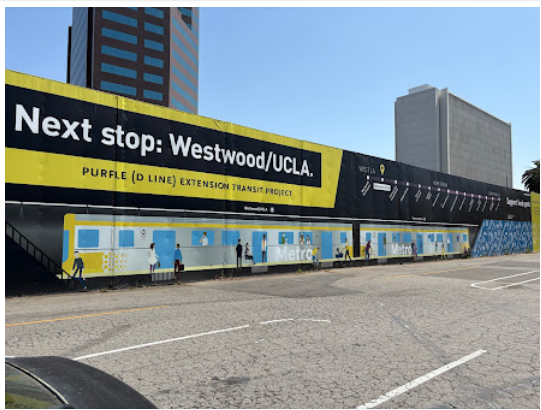
- One southbound right turn lane on Gayley Ave at Wilshire Bl will be prohibited.
- One southbound right turn lane on Westwood Bl at Wilshire Bl will be prohibited.

Noteworthy:

- All work has received necessary permits and approvals.
- Access for pedestrians will be maintained outside of construction zones.
- Access for the Fire Department and emergency responders will be maintained.
- Parking restrictions will be implemented in the immediate area of the work zone.
- Construction is dynamic and schedules are subject to change.
- **24/7 Hotline:** 213-922-6934



Source: https://cloud.sfmtc.metro.net/WilshireBl_LaneClosure_WestwoodVeteran.



Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:25 AM No comments:     

Labels: [traffic](#), [UCLA](#)

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